

Applic. No. 10/765,584

Amdt. dated March 6, 2006

Reply to Office action of December 5, 2005

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-4, 8-14, 16-17, and 22-23 are now in the application. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended. Claims 6, 7, 15, and 18-20 were previously cancelled. Claim 21 is being cancelled herewith.

In item 2 on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 1-3, 11-14, and 16-17 have been rejected as being obvious over Wank et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,828,901) (hereinafter "Wank") in view of Myers et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,560,110 B1) (hereinafter "Myers") under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

It is appreciatively noted from item 19 on page 6 of the Office action, that claims 21 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 21. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Since claim 1 is allowable, dependent claims 2-3, 11-14, and 16-17 are allowable as well.

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In item 13 on page 4 of the above-identified Office action, claims 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10 have been rejected as being obvious over Wank (U.S. Patent No. 4,828,901) in view of Myers (U.S. Patent No. 6,560,110 B1) and further in view of Stewart et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0170450 A1) (hereinafter "Stewart") under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Since claim 1 is allowable, dependent claims 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10 are allowable as well.

In item 18 on page 6 of the Office action, the Examiner stated that the IDS filed in January and April of 2004 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3). Applicants once again respectfully note that the only information disclosure statements that were filed were on July 19, 2004 and on January 26, 2004. Furthermore, any of the patents listed that were included in the statements were submitted with a corresponding English language patent or English language abstracts, which are the explanations of relevance. Therefore, the Examiner is kindly requested to consider these references. Moreover, in a telephone conversation with Examiner Coleman on February 9, 2006, the Examiner indicated that he did have the abstracts for the references. Examiner Coleman indicated that he did not have an English language abstracts for German Patent DE 34 42 131 C2. Undersigned indicated that German patent corresponds to U.S. Patent No.

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4,784,872. The Examiner indicated that he would consider all
of the references in question.

Since only allowable claims remain, the early issuance of a
Notice of Allowance is solicited herewith.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims
to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone
call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked
out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition
for extension is herewith made.

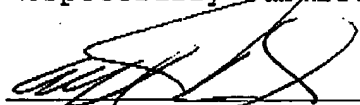
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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant(s)

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March 6, 2006

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